

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

New coding scheme to minimize the total local delay in the switching elements.

Under the new coding scheme, the switching element can be optimized such that it can start to produce the first output bits of the output packets without having to wait for the complete

5 arrival of all of the local routing bits, and hence reduces the local buffering delay. In

practical switching applications, each switching element in a multistage switching network

supporting multicasting is a bicast cell, and the concomitant new coding scheme can even

achieve a minimum delay in each bicast cell. Hence the total latency of the overall

switching network is minimized.

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